

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

May 8, 2006

7:00 p.m.

The Mayor, Council and all in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Balbier: "Clerk, would you call the roll please?"

Clerk Banish: "Rich Balbier."

"Kathy Pucci."

"Rita Brown."

"Colleen Gallagher."

"Greg Frey."

"Craig Patton."

"John Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Here."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Here."

Councilwoman Brown: "Here."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Here."

Councilman G. Frey: "Here."

Councilman Patton: "Here."

Councilman J. Frey: "Here."

President Balbier: "Tonight's agenda: We have bid requests for the old library, and gas and oil drilling; bid approval of street striping; Ordinance 2005-55, the third reading, An Ordinance enacting Chapter 1360 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Brooklyn, Ohio entitled Chapter 1360 the Property Maintenance and Rental Licensing Code; Ordinance 2006-33, Amending Section 1 of Ordinance 2002-42, as amended by Ordinance 2004-47, adopted 6/28/04, entitled 'An Ordinance providing for the fees for instructions in ice skating at the Brooklyn Multi-Purpose Recreational Center'; Ordinance 2006-34, Authorizing and directing the Director of Finance to sell, through public auction, various obsolete, surplus and non-functioning city vehicles, materials, and/or equipment; Ordinance 2006-35, to be put on first reading, Authorizing inter-fund transfers and advances during 2006; Ordinance 2006-36, To approve the 2006 replacement pages of the Brooklyn Codified Ordinances; and other matters that may come before Council. We now need a motion to approve the minutes of April 24th."

Councilwoman Brown: "Move to approve."

Councilman Patton: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To approve the minutes of April 24th, Rich Balbier." Councilman Balbier: "Yea."

"Kathy Pucci."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."

"Rita Brown."

Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."

"Colleen Gallagher."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."

"Greg Frey."

Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."

"Craig Patton."

Councilman Patton: "Yea."

"John Frey."

Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Balbier: "Before we open it up to the public, we have a few things to take care of here first. There's a proclamation from the Mayor."

Mayor Patton: "If Mr. Ron Balbier could come forward. We have a Mayor's Proclamation to honor and recognize Mr. Ronald Balbier for serving as volunteer Magistrate for the City of Brooklyn Juvenile Diversion Program. Whereas, in 1998 the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court established a county diversion program using volunteer Magistrates. The Community Diversion Program is a community based sanction program that diverts first time misdemeanor and status offenders from official court action. And whereas, the City of Brooklyn adopted a Resolution on March 27, 2000 for a Juvenile Diversion Program to be established, empowering communities to tailor treatment and sanction to fit the needs of the individual child and concerns of the community. And whereas, Mr. Ron Balbier has been serving as a volunteer Magistrate for the City of Brooklyn since its inception, meeting with juveniles and their parents, determining the number of community service hours, or a suitable alternative for the official court action, with the goal of making the juvenile's first offense their last offense. And whereas, the City of Brooklyn appreciates the hard work, dedication, professionalism and many hours that Ron puts forth to those who need assistance. Whereas, now, therefore, I, Mayor Kenneth E. Patton, and on behalf of the Brooklyn City Council and the citizens of the City of Brooklyn, do hereby recognize Mr. Ronald Balbier for serving as a volunteer Magistrate and giving unselfishly of his time to the Brooklyn Juvenile Diversion Program. Thank you. You are to be commended."

Ron Albier: "I want to thank Mayor Patton and the Brooklyn City Council for their unwavering support of the Juvenile Diversion Program. It's an excellent program, it gives kids, adolescents a chance, kids that are first time offenders in the City of Brooklyn, and they qualify in other ways, they are given a chance in our Juvenile Diversion Program. Now if they complete the program, which is in effect probation, their case never makes it down to Juvenile Court, which is a tremendous advantage to those kids. I serve as the Magistrate, and I'm proud to do so. I handle the hearings where the kids come before us, admit their wrongdoing, and a program is set up for them. We have a Juvenile Diversion officer, his name is Lou Galizio. He's a long-time corrections officer at the county, and our city has hired him on a part-time basis. He's paid by the Juvenile Court of Cuyahoga County, because they're fully behind this program. And not all communities have it. And then they're put on a program, which if they complete it, their case never leaves the Brooklyn Police Department. It never goes downtown, they have no juvenile record. And always part of their probation, their sentence, if you will, is community service. And that could be many things. In addition that we expect them to keep their grades up, and Mr. Galizio will put on other criteria for them, but they all give something back to the city, because it takes something from our city. Our juvenile officer in the Brooklyn Police Department has to investigate, Mr. Galizio has to investigate. It takes a lot of time and effort, and they have to give something back. And so part of it is always community service. And as I stated, Mayor Patton and City Council have always been full hearted behind this, but the person that's really responsible for the Juvenile Diversion Program is your Councilwoman Colleen Gallagher. It was her thought from the beginning, and she helped put it together, actually did put it together and pushed it. And when they are on this community service, I do the hearing here in the Mayor's Court. It's always 8:00 on a Saturday morning, and then I leave. But Mr. Galizio and Ms. Gallagher's work then starts. And she does it strictly as a volunteer, and will do it from 8 in the morning until noon. And the kids will be washing police cars, or picking up papers in the park, working around the Rec Center. I think we have a car wash coming up that'll benefit our new animal shelter. And all this takes time and effort. And you'll see, if anybody's up that early and down here, you'll see Mrs. Gallagher in her old clothes supervising these kids. And on the rare occasions that she is unable to do it, she asks Rich Albier to do it, which forces him to get up on a Saturday morning. But I want to thank Mayor and Council, because without their wholehearted support of this it wouldn't work; and especially thank Ms. Gallagher for all the time and effort that she's put in it. And I'm proud to be able to serve as the volunteer Magistrate, and I hope to do so for many years to come. Thank you."

Mayor Patton: "That is a great program. Colleen, you brought that up many years ago, and it finally got through in 2000. And it's a program supported by the entire Council and the administration. At this time I wonder if Lisa Englander and Shirley Palumbo could come forward. In celebration to Be Kind to Animals Week, which is this week, the 7th- 14th, the Brooklyn Animal Shelter held a poster contest for elementary school children with the theme 'How I Take Care of my Pet'. All entries were displayed at Kids Fest Pet Fair, which was held at the Senior Center yesterday. Posters were judged in the following categories: first classification was kindergarten and first grade; the next classification was second and third grade; and then finally fourth and fifth grade. And we're going announce our winners at this time. The winner of the kindergarten/first grade is Becky Gerbeck from first grade. Congratulations. I'm sorry, there's a prize here for you too, come on back. Very good. The winner from the second and third grade is Brian Aufmuth. Congratulations. And the winner from the fourth and fifth grade, Calvin Rizek, fourth grade. Congratulations."

President Albier: "We have one more item to take care of before the public session. About a month ago Councilman Craig Patton approached me and said that he's been working at the high school with students, getting ideas and so forth for the Master Plan. And he would like one of the students to come forward tonight and give us their thoughts on our Master Plan. And in addition to that he promised him that he could sit in his seat up here when he gave his speech. So I agreed to that, so I'll let Mr. Craig Patton introduce him."

Councilman Patton: "Alright, thank you Mr. Albier. Yeah, several months ago, when Ivan Dockery and myself initially went to the high school to give a few classes on the city's new Master Plan, I began talking to Miss Ann Hostetler, who's the head of the History and Government Department over at the high school. We came up with some different ideas of actually trying to implement this into the high school's curriculum. And we thought of some good ideas and some good reports, and different things that she could do. And about two weeks ago she actually got the report finalized, and the high school seniors took control of that. They went out and interviewed people, not just from Brooklyn, from other cities, residents, made phone calls, did anything they could to get information based on what the City of Brooklyn residents wanted from

the Master Plan. Brian's report was, on top of some of the many that were very, very, very good reports that were handed back in. Mrs. Hostetler and myself thought that Brian would be the best to give the report tonight. He has definitely earned my seat over the hard work over the last two weeks, to be the Councilman for the evening. So it gives me great pleasure to introduce Mr. Brian Ward."

Brian Ward: "It's a big seat to fill."

Councilman Patton: "You're hanging out with the Freys."

Mr. Ward: "To many I'm just a student giving a report on some high school class that we did, and to tell you what's going on in the high school and what us seniors are doing. But to others I am a representative. A representative not only in the community, but the community's opinions, suggestions and concerns. And that's why I'd like to share with you today. On April 13th Ivan Dockery came to our class and gave a presentation of the Master Plan. There was many aspects of it that we liked and many aspects that we had ideas to change and make better. On April 18th, Craig Patton himself had come in for an interview, and we had asked him questions. And that had to do with the surveys and such that had been doing for the past month. On April 27th we completed our surveys, and now I'm here today to share with you. Over 100 surveys and interviews were given out to the not only people in our community such as parents, students, other residents, and even people outside of our city, about their city to relate it to our city, and see what we could do better to improve not only as a city but as a community. Why is this important? It's because, even like our country itself, the people are the running wheels, and the people of Brooklyn, I think that their opinion does matter. And if you get the opinions from the people and then bring them up to the Council, their opinion is, well, finalized. And the idea is brought by the people, and it's, well, what makes the difference? The surveys that we conducted, we had asked what they had thought was important about our city. And most of the things that they thought was important was as follows: access to highways, sense of security, a small town atmosphere, overall look of our city, and especially the services. I would agree, and I hope that you would, that our city provides enough services that we could be some of the laziest people in the greater Cleveland area. Amen, huh? Some of the dislikes of a lot of the surveys that we had given were: the traffic problems that we have, especially around Ridge Road and Brookpark, the housing values, the certain Rec facilities, and the man aspects of the school district. Some of the interviews that we had passed out, and this includes interviews about other cities compared to ours, and interviews on just our city alone. Some of the strengths that we found were: the services that were performed, just like I spoke of before, taxes, the parks and the neighborhood. Some weaknesses that people thought our city had was: the traffic, schools, of course, house sizes and child care. Many people don't really have places to have their children during the day. Knowing all this, and gathering all this information on the surveys and interviews, we had split up into four groups, our entire class, and different aspects, recreation, business, residential and the services. We want to know what could we come up with, what could we brainstorm to improve our city. By using the surveys we had come up with the ideas based on surveys. So the ideas that I'm about to represent are not only just the students' perspective, but also families in this city and residents that, well, they vote. The recreation part of our project consisted of a day care center, somewhere for an adolescent or a young child; a youth center. In the Master Plan they referred to a teen canteen. We like that idea, considering that would give us a place to go after school. The gym at the Rec Center. Surprisingly enough, a lot of people had opinions on the gym at the Rec Center. It doesn't seem like a large aspect when it comes down to, you know, thinking about oiling or drilling and stuff like that; but a lot of people do think about the little things, like in the Rec Center. And then a basketball court in the Rec Center. I mean, we have a racquetball court in there, and I don't really know how many people use that racquetball court. But we had just put out, not too long ago, basketball courts outside of the school, on the tennis courts. Yes, you could see how many people flooded there as soon as they got put in. Imagine if we had one inside of the Rec Center, specifically for Brooklyn kids. We know that a lot of Brooklyn kids do not go up to the basketball court up there because it's flooded with out of city people. And maybe a suggestion would be to put one in the Rec Center where the racquetball courts are, specifically for Brooklyn residents. And then the final thing is the condition of the fields. That's a large problem with people because many of the games got cancelled this year for baseball and softball just because of the condition of the field. If we could improve that we not only improve the school's aspect for the field, but also for, well, just the residents, kids going out and playing ball. The second was business. The business group, one of the major ideas where to improve business in our city was to improve the traffic flow. If we get people going in and out of our city more, that means we have more customers for our business. Some ideas like that were, like the light under, by down Ridge. You know, adding arrow lights and such like that to get traffic going faster. Or adding the turn only post so that you can only go certain

ways, instead of giving people options to go many different ways, and then clogging the traffic. Biddulph Plaza. Maybe adding a marquee. Telling people what's really over there. Adding regulations for store signs. Not too many people really know what's over there. They just see Giant Eagle and Ponderosa, and they drive by because they don't feel like eating or buying food. There's other stores over there, and we can progress and increase our productivity by letting people know what's over there. Increasing the overall look of Biddulph Plaza. That, compared to Ridge Park, is a large difference. There's also Brookpark corridor. There's many gates and greenery that should be kept up, and that does make a difference to people. That part of our city a lot of people go through, and a lot of people notice our city, and if they get an aspect of just that small part of our city, then maybe people's opinions will change, if it changes. Oversize parking lots would increase business by adding greenery. I know that the certain percentage of greenery has to stay around, or somewhat like that. But we have very large parking lots, such as HH Gregg by Denny's. A lot of that space is not being used, if we can, you know, investigate that and come up with some ideas of what to use for it. And then finally, the interaction with city. I know that the high school does, you know, gold cards, you know, for certain businesses. Well maybe we should, you know, look into that more. If we have, and pass it out to not only people around Brooklyn, but outside of Brooklyn, that would make people come into Brooklyn using their cards that they have that they purchased. And the final two things that we looked into was the residential and service. For the residential it was very hard to come with ideas, because it was just hard. Some were the citations for unkempt property. We are a very proud city of what we have and what we keep. We have very good services, and we like our city to be kept well. And for the people who don't respect the property of Brooklyn and their property, I think there should be citations for that. Other things are rewards for the best kept property, giving them an encouragement to do something good with their property. Also other things is, this is a broad subject, but new houses and additions. I understand that the residential and amount of residential area is hard to increase at this point. But adding additions and advertising the loans that we can offer to build upon houses. You know, offering a good program, you know, where no interest of a certain amount of time so that they can build on their houses, that would increase the housing value of our city. And then the final thing was small things like sidewalks and the streets. You know, the lining that they were just talking about, primary example. It's a very good idea. It would make the city more beautiful, especially considering, well, people are going through it very often. The final thing was the services. Our services are great already, and how can you improve that, correct? But traffic management, that's the biggest one. You know, people really don't like so many people going in and out of Ridge Park Square; but at the same time it's helping us and benefiting us. The second thing was an adolescent center for the children. I understand that the Senior Center, the back half of it really isn't used that much, and having those two large rooms like that, fitting many people, we could turn that into an adolescent center and create a couple jobs and, well, have a lot of kids go in there during the day. In-home services. There's many places that do this. The busing program, we thought it was a very good idea, and we thought that it should be maybe like a Brooklyn certified. You know, we have cars to get into Brooklyn, well we could have cars to get on that bus loop or the bus program. And then the final thing is a new sports leagues. Not too many people are using them nowadays, and if have new sports leagues, you know, maybe some new colors and a new fashion, then many people will get involved. That would get people more involved in the city, and at a young age, and make them persuaded to be more interactive with the city at this age, doing the things, you know, I'm doing right now, speaking in front of you fine people. So that's all that I have right now, and if you have any..."

President Albier: "Does any Councilperson have any comments or questions for Brian? I have a couple things Brian. First of all, I think you're an excellent public speaker."

Mr. Ward: "Thanks."

President Albier: "And I think in a few years you'll probably be sitting up here permanently. You mentioned about the basketball courts, though. Last year we changed it, the Rec Department changed it, that the courts are used for only residents after 5:00 I believe it was."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Yes."

President Albier: "And you have to show your ID cards. So we knew that was the problem, we tried to correct it. And the other thing, about people's property, right now we have a committee and we're working on updating our codes, which will help that, because then the Building Inspector will have more authority to go in and cite people if they're not taking care of their property."

Mr. Ward: "Very good."

President Albier: "Okay, I thank you very, very much, you're very interesting."

Mayor Patton: "I have one."

President Albier: "Oh, I'm sorry, the Mayor."

Mayor Patton: "And you brought up pertaining to HH Gregg and Denny's, that's actually City of Cleveland."

Mr. Ward: "Oh it is?"

Mayor Patton: "Yes."

Mr. Ward: "My apologies."

Mayor Patton: "Okay."

Councilwoman Pucci: "May I be recognized Rich?"

President Albier: "Yes, Mrs. Pucci."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Brian also participated in our Finance Committee meeting, and I just want to thank you for your interest. All the effort that you and the other students have put into this. And thank you for reporting back to us. And I hope you continue to be involved in our community. Thank you."

Mr. Ward: "Thank you."

President Albier: "Thank you Brian."

Mayor Patton: "Good job Brian."

President Albier: "Okay, now we'll have the public session. Anyone that has anything to say for the good and welfare of the City of Brooklyn, please come forward and state your name and address."

Shirley Palumbo: "Shirley Palumbo, 10218 Micka Drive, Brooklyn. I'm here representing the Brooklyn Animal Shelter. And I'd like to thank families that attended our Kids Fest and alternative pet fair this weekend. Everyone had a lot of fun playing the games and learning about the interesting and exotic animals that were there. And I'd like to congratulate again the winners of the poster contest, and thank you very much for participating. One last reminder, the Brooklyn Animal Shelter volunteers and supporters will be attending Animal Jam 2006 this Friday, May 12th from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Velvet Dog, 1280 West 6th Street. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. Please come out and have a great time. All expenses of this event are donated by the Animal Jam group to benefit the Animal Shelter project. Pledge sheets for the Bark in the Park dog walk and picnic are now available at City Hall and the Brooklyn Library for this event to be held Saturday, May 27th at the grande pavilion behind Brooklyn City Hall. Dogs and their people will walk the trail through Veterans Memorial Park and finish with dog contests, face painting, and a few surprises. A picnic lunch will be available. All proceeds to benefit BAS, Inc. All walkers who raise over \$50 will receive a free t-shirt. Prizes will be awarded for most adult pledges and most youth pledges. The \$10 registration fee is waived for those who raise \$10 in pledges. Participants do not have to walk a dog. You also may attend the picnic without participating in the walk. Brooklyn Animal Shelter would like to thank Wal-Mart at Parmatown for their recent award of \$1,000 Community Good Works Grant. We will be having a garage sale in June and a flea market in July, with car washes at Wally's both months. Last week Operation Pet Watch reconciled two lost dogs with their owners. One of these dogs was run over by a SUV on Biddulph Road, but survived because she was so small. A special thanks goes to Diane Turk, a good Samaritan who kept the small one for us till the owner was found. The other was fostered by a volunteer. Please, get a license for your dog, or at least an ID tag. We have a fine animal ordinance adopted by City Council in April last year. As we have no animal control officer, it is not being enforced; but if you know of

an animal that is not being cared for properly, please call the APL humane investigators at 216-771-4616. A copy of the animal ordinance is available on our web page www.brooklynshelter.org. Thank you."

Councilman J. Frey: "I have a question. What arrangements have been made for parking at that slam jam? Is there parking, or valet parking, or what?"

Mrs. Palumbo: "After 5:00 there is no charge for parking on the street downtown, and there is parking in the lots."

Councilman Patton: "There is valet. Valet is available at the Blue Point Grille."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mrs. Palumbo. And I don't think an ID is good enough. I think the law says you have to have a dog license. Does anyone else care to speak? If not, we'll move onto our reports from committees, commissions and boards. The first is the Public Works Committee, and that's chaired by Mr. Greg Frey."

Councilman G. Frey: "I don't really have a report, Mr. Balbier, but I would like Mary-Jo to call a meeting before the first Council meeting in June. If we could get Roger to give us an update, and what's going to be going on over the summer, what we can look for with the new fire station. I think we've all noticed that the walls are starting to go up this week. So we ought to be pretty much under roof by the time we get to that meeting, or at least have the walls all up. And maybe he can give us an idea of where we're at and how we're doing. And I'd like to do that before the Council recesses for the summer. So it'd be 6:00 the first meeting in June."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Frey. Next is the Public Safety, and that's Councilwoman Gallagher."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. Safety Committee met on Monday, May 1st to discuss the neighborhood watch program. Our committee decided to start a pilot program, which includes the areas of Tiedeman and Manoa. The committee selected Mary Lee Bowen as captain and Barb Paulitsky as co-captain. The position is essential to the success of the program. The captains arrange the meetings or events and also serve as a liaison between the Police Departments and their neighbors. There will be two meetings per year with your crime prevention and community police officers. Regular discussions between neighbors and the community police should also take place. A neighborhood watch program is proven to be the most effective means to prevent crime and reduce fear. It bonds area residents and it helps reduce crime and improves relations between police officers and citizens of our community. Residents and police work together to achieve one common goal, and in the process they are making neighborhoods safer. These meetings will assist citizens in learning how to protect their property and report suspicious activity. A meeting will be held on May 24th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the break-ins and security tips. The city also plans to have this meeting televised for residents who are unable to attend. That completes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mrs. Gallagher. Next is the Planning Commission, Mr. John Frey."

Councilman J. Frey: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. There was a Planning Commission meeting on May 4th at 4:30, and that's held in the Brooklyn Court room downstairs, where the Magistrate operates. In any event, there was a request from Elet Neon Sign Company for sign approval for Circuit City-Verizon Wireless located at 7349 Northcliff Avenue. Those are those stores I think up next to Marc's, up there in the Ridge Park area. And that was approved. There also was a request from MC Sign Company for sign approval for the Westside Mazda located at 9600 Brookpark Road. They really have a big sign, and what they put on the lawn up there, there's a whole brand new bunch of Jaguars and what have you. They're advertising it pretty well. But they want a big sign, and that's a very, very busy car agency for Jaguars and the like. You'll want to see it. So we did approve for that sign approval. And that's all that we had. There will be a meeting, the first Thursday of June there'll be a Planning Commission meeting, first Thursday of June at 4:30 down in the Mayor's Court. Thank you."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Frey. Next is the Rec Board, Councilman Patton."

Councilman Patton: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. I do not have a report for this evening, and our Rec Board meeting will be May 15th at 6:30 in the Mayor's Court. That's all I have."

President Albier: "Thank you. Next is the Finance Committee, and that's Mrs. Pucci."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Thank you Mr. Albier. The Finance Committee did meet earlier this evening, and we approved the following items. The first is 2005-55. This Ordinance is up for third reading and adoption. This addresses the Property Maintenance and Rental Licensing Code. This requires the owners of rental property, except one and two-family structures that are owner-occupied as the owner's principal residence. The fee for the license is \$50 per year. There will be exterior inspections, and if the Building Commissioner deems it necessary, interior inspections with a 24-hour notice. Ordinance #2006-33, this provides for fees for instructions for ice skating. This raises the learn to skate fee from \$16 to \$20 for residents and \$30 to \$35 for non-residents. And this is for an 8-week program. Ordinance 2006-34, Authorizing and directing the Director of Finance to sell, through public auction, various obsolete surplus and non-functioning city vehicles, materials, and/or equipment. The date of this auction is June 3rd. There is a list available. There are vehicles, there's a lot of bicycles, and the list is also available on our city website. Ordinance 2006-35, Authorizing inter-fund transfers and advances. There are two transfers. First, \$243,000 from the Plain Dealer Debt Service to the Bond Retirement Fund. This year we're going to pay half of that off, and the remaining half will be paid in full next year 2007. Second is \$93,800 and this is from the Capital Improvement Fund to the Biddulph Road PID 9922. This represents \$80,000 in principal and \$13,800 in interest. Ordinance 2006-36. This just approves the 2006 replacement pages to our Codified Ordinances. As we update our ordinances and as there are changes in the state statute, we have to make sure that our Codified Ordinances are updated accordingly. We had a letter from Chief Murphy on the street striping, and we recommended that we accept the low bid, which was from Custom Line Striping for \$38,500. We had a letter from Mr. Kappler requesting authorization to obtain Request for Proposals for oil and gas drilling on city property. They're specifically looking at Veterans Memorial Park and possibly the landfill. There's going to be a lot of questions that come up regarding this. This is basically just exploring if we want to proceed with this. And what they're basing it on is maps from about 100 years ago that showed the locations of the old gas wells. We also had a letter from Mayor Patton seeking authorization to seek bids to sell the old library. Two years ago we had it appraised at \$528,000. The letter reads a minimum bid of \$400,000 and there was a consensus to increase the minimum bid to \$500,000 – basically because we're not going to entertain anything below that anyway. So we didn't want to go through the motions of, you know, possibly having bids that were too low that we were not going to accept. This also does not obligate us to accept any bid. We reserve the right to reject any and all that we may receive. I believe that completes my report. Thank you Mr. Albier."

President Albier: "Thank you Mrs. Pucci. Next is Domestic Violence and Legislative Update, and that's chaired by Mrs. Colleen Gallagher."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Thank you Mr. Albier. The Domestic Violence Committee met on Wednesday, April 26th to finalize the City of Brooklyn's Domestic Violence pamphlet. I would like to thank the committee for all their hard work, input and dedication. The pamphlet covers many topics, including information regarding knowing your rights, as well as legal and financial resources. The winner of the cover design was John Ginnard, a Brooklyn High School senior. He will be awarded a scholarship and receive a proclamation at the next Council meeting. Our committee would like to thank all the talented students who participated in the competition. We also would like to thank Superintendent Jeff Lampert for his permission to allow the students to participate. Our next Domestic Violence meeting is Wednesday, June 14th at 6:30 p.m. That completes my report."

President Albier: "Thank you Mrs. Gallagher. Next is the Zoning Board of Appeals, Mr. Ockington."

Comm. Ockington: "Thank you Mr. Albier. The May Board of Zoning Appeals meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2006 at 6 p.m. That concludes my report."

President Rich Albier: "Thank you Mr. Ockington. That completes reports from committees, next is reports of Council, and I believe I'm first tonight. Once again I'd like to thank Mr. Brian Ward for your talk, it was very informative. And he told us before the meeting that he likes to talk in public. It was the first time I ever heard anybody say that. That's usually the number one phobia, at least it was for me. So nice job Brian. I received a letter from the Cook Paving and Construction Company, and they said they're going to start work today on the Ridge Road bridge to install electrical manholes at both the north and south ends of

the bridge. Then they're going to put in four-five inch ducts for Cleveland Public Power. And all the work is to be completed by August. We also held our committee meeting on the updating of our zoning and building ordinances, and we're making a lot of progress. And our goal, we decided, was to finish the last two chapters at the next meeting, and then go over everything that we discussed, and hopefully have it completed by before we break for summer. Then that would give Mr. Ockington a couple of months during the summer to bring it up to date and writing and present to Council in the fall. Mr. Kappler, the trees were taken out along Delora Avenue, what's the time schedule to replace those?"

Director Kappler: "They will be on the fall planting this year."

President Albier: "In the fall. Do we plant anything in the spring?"

Director Kappler: "No, because it's too difficult to maintain in spring, you have to constantly water in the summer months. This way it'll be planted in the fall, in October, and basically weather takes care of trees themselves, and by springtime they'll be blooming."

President Albier: "Okay, thank you. Mr. Ockington, do we have a starting date yet for that Wild Ginger Restaurant on Tiedeman Road?"

Comm. Ockington: "I don't have a date, they should be breaking ground within the next month though, I would assume."

President Albier: "In the next month."

Comm. Ockington: "Yes."

President Albier: "Okay, thank you. Also, the Brooklyn Safety Town is open to any child entering kindergarten in the fall. And the registration will be Saturday, May 20th at the Rec Center. Residents could register between 11-12 and from 12-1 it's open registration. The Brooklyn Police Department will once again be selling the safety helmets. They're valued at \$30 and the Police Department sells them for 8, so it's a pretty good deal. They work with that through University Hospital. And that's all I have. Next is Mrs. Pucci."

Councilwoman Kathy Pucci: "Thank you Mr. Albier. First, congratulations to Mr. Ron Albier, and thank you for all the time that you dedicate that benefits the youth in our community. We sincerely appreciate it. And also congratulations to the poster contest winners, Becky, Brian and Calvin. And as always, thank you to Shirl and Lisa for all their efforts on behalf of the Animal Shelter. I'd also like to commend our high school students who worked at the polling places. I'm sure anyone that went out to vote noticed them. What a wonderful opportunity for our students to observe our Democratic process in action. And also, they had a long day, just like the poll workers, because they were there from the beginning, they got a small lunch break, just like the polling workers, or I'm sorry, the poll workers. But they were there till the very end. So I commend them for volunteering their time. And I have to agree with what Mr. Albier said about the zoning code review committee. We are making a lot of progress. We've been meeting, I think this was our fourth or fifth one, but we're having very lengthily discussions and we're getting a lot accomplished. So hopefully we will have something ready to bring to Council when we come back from our summer recess in the beginning of September. Mr. Hammond, thank you for getting back to me. I know we traded phone calls regarding my questions at the last Council meeting. And in addition, I would like to thank Chris Dress for resolving the issue of the residents in apartments not receiving mail from the city, specifically people at the Westbrooks. Beginning with our next Rec book, we're going to deliver enough for the Westbrooks to their office, and they will see to it that all the residents receive one. This way we eliminate the mail house expense and the postage for apartments that are vacant. The Westbrooks will give them to each apartment, and then they will also have the extras on hand, so that when new residents move into those vacant apartments, they will also get one of our Rec books. So I think this is a good solution to that problem. Regarding our Safety Committee meeting that we held, I'd like to thank the residents who attended, and especially thank Mary Lee Bowen and Mrs. Paulitsky for volunteering to be captain and co-captain for our block watch. As a community, we need participation from our residents, and especially need the residents to make the necessary commitment to maintaining the quality of life that we all enjoy. I hope that this pilot program will be successful in this area, and that we will be able to extend it to other neighborhoods in our

city. Mayor, could you please maybe address some of the rumors that are going around regarding the city hiring a horticulturist? I know there are a lot of people with questions. I had a few calls over the weekend."

Mayor Patton: "It's part of negotiations, and I don't believe I can report on that until the union ratifies their contract."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Okay. Can you... Are you allowed to comment on if we're planning on hiring a full time horticulturist in the city, or you can't comment on that yet?"

Mayor Patton: "Am I allowed to comment or no?"

Councilwoman Pucci: "I don't want to put anyone in a bad position, so..."

Director Shaper: "Let's hold off on that."

Mayor Patton: "Okay, I will report to Council as soon as I can."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Okay. Well there are a lot of rumors out there regarding us hiring one. And I guess I'll reserve my comments until we have more specific information. Thank you. Do you anticipate that we'll know something before the next Council meeting, or...?"

Mayor Patton: "We hope so."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Okay. Just my personal comment is, we're a very small city, we live in the Midwest with a very short growing season. I can't even fathom why we would need a full-time horticulturist. But I'll wait and see what the rest of the information is. Thank you, that completes my report Mr. Balbier."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mrs. Pucci. Next is Mrs. Brown."

Councilwoman Rita Brown: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. I have a very short report tonight. The majority of my phone calls consisted of calls on high grass and ice cream trucks on city streets. And I think the dispatchers are becoming tired of my calls when I call and tell them we have an ice cream truck on Archmere or one on Northcliff, and we do have an ordinance that ice cream trucks are not allowed on city streets. So I hope they get the message. And I too have received calls from residents on the possibility of the hiring of a full-time horticulturist, and being taken in by the union, who takes care of our Service Department. And I'll tell you this, in my opinion we do not need a full-time horticulturist earning \$26 an hour when what we do need is an animal control person. And that completes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mrs. Brown. Mrs. Gallagher."

Councilwoman Colleen Gallagher: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. Good evening ladies and gentlemen. First of all I would like to discuss the progress of the Brooklyn Animal Shelter. The president of the Brooklyn Animal Shelter, Shirley Palumbo, as well as many volunteers of this organization, have worked diligently to raise funds to build an animal shelter for this community. So many residents of this community have assisted in their endeavors by donating funds, attending events, and volunteering their time. Recently the Brooklyn Sun News reported that the cost of the Brooklyn Animal Shelter is now close to a half a million dollars. I was astonished by this figure, especially when the city originally placed the cost of the building a shelter at close to \$100,000. The old Brooklyn library was the first site to be considered for the animal shelter. The estimated cost of repairing the old library was approximately 350,000 and undoubtedly provided a better site for the animals. Many volunteers indicated that they could lower this estimated cost by volunteering their time and labor to repair the building. Some members of Council supported this proposition because the city would be able to keep the property. I am suggesting that we reconsider this site for building the animal shelter. Not only will it cost less money, and the city can maintain the property, but it also would provide a better environment for the animals. This proposed site was taken off the table because of complaints by the church next door to the old library. If these accusations are true, I would ask to speak to a representative from the church. I find it hard to believe that a church, with its morals and values, would oppose a group of volunteers who are trying to save and protect animals. Either way, I am disappointed by the city's lack of enthusiasm for this project, when so many residents have volunteered their

time and energy so that Brooklyn can have an animal shelter. I also recently learned that now the city is saying that the proposed site at the city garage is also unworkable because utilities are unavailable to the proposed site. I feel that the city is dragging its feet on this project, and their actions are unconscionable. Thus I am proposing that the bids for the old library be pulled off the table. I will not support selling the old library when we can keep the property and allow the animal shelter to be built there. I am sick of all the excuses, and I don't want to hear them any longer. There is no good excuse for selling the old library property, and there's no good excuse for the city's inaction with the animal shelter. And finally, to add to the numerous complaints I've received regarding the city's inaction with the animal shelter, I have also received numerous complaints regarding the city's plan to hire a horticulturist. After the city negotiated with the Fire Department for a 2% raise, they proposed that other employees of the city receive a 1% bonus. I asked that this amount be raised to 2% for parity within the city. I was met with resistance, and the city stated it did not have to provide equality between the departments. Now it is my understanding that the city seeks to hire a horticulturist full-time. People have asked me how can the city justify a position when in the past it has stated it does not have the funds to provide our workers with raises. People have also asked me this person's function, what it would be during the winter months. I cannot answer these questions because I don't know how the city can justify this position. I will not support a position. I feel it is a misuse of taxpayers' dollars. And I'd like to thank Brian Ward for your presentation on that Master Plan student survey. Our young adults are very important to the city and to our future, and I appreciate your time and effort. So thank you Brian. Congratulations to Mr. Balbier for making the Juvenile Diversion possible, and for all your dedication. You do a great job Ron, thanks. And congratulations to the winners of the Brooklyn Animal Shelter Kids Fest poster contest. And that completes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mrs. Gallagher. Next is Mr. Greg Frey."

Councilman Greg Frey: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. I too would like to congratulate Ron Balbier for all of the things that he does around Brooklyn, has done for many, many years. You know, we get involved in a lot of who's doing what and who's getting what, and a lot of that kind of nonsense around this town, a lot of supposition, a lot of rumor, a lot of innuendo, a lot of just misconception. Okay, a little bit of information that gets twisted, turned and dumped out. And people get hurt. And that's considered good sport I guess. We do have some wonderful people around this town that have helped to make it what it is today, that will help to make it what it becomes tomorrow. Ron Balbier is one of those kind of people. He gives of his time, he gives of his effort, he gives of his talent to the City of Brooklyn. And we're lucky to have him. Mr. Ward, I want to congratulate you. I think you did an excellent job up here. I think you did an excellent job in the Finance Committee meeting. I thank you for your ideas. I would caution you that some of the things that you have on there are in the public domain, some of them are in the private domain, and some of them are in the public/private domain, and sometimes we have a little trouble sorting out some of that stuff. But it's not all go ahead and do this. We don't always have the ability to go ahead and change what's at Biddulph Plaza. Okay, we can suggest to them that, hey, you need to do some sprucing up, we can't mandate it. That's private property, and private property owners have private rights. I attended the State of the Schools speech last week on Tuesday. Superintendent Jeff Lampert and the treasurer over there, Marti Ferian, did an excellent job of bringing us up to date on the Brooklyn School System. Marti indicated that our finances are pretty solid through 2009. Beyond that there is a problem. The problem happens to be that one of the principal sources of income for the Brooklyn City Schools is tangible personal property taxes, which are being done away with, and public utility taxes, which are going away, to be replaced by this commercial activity tax, or CAT tax. It appears that the CAT tax is going to be collected from everybody, and it's going to be sent down to Columbus; and the question is, is any of it going to come back to Brooklyn or to Brooklyn Schools or the city. This will impact the city as well. The state has guaranteed, such as state guarantees go, and they're not worth much; but the state has guaranteed that everybody's going to be held harmless, I think through about 2009-2010. The state's going to replace the money lost by the personal property, tangible personal property tax and public utility tax; however, Mr. Ferian indicates that the basis that they're doing it on will actually result in a decline in revenue for our school system, probably for our city as well. So we need to keep an eye on that, because money that disappears down to Columbus tends to get spent down on Columbus and benefits us not. And what'll happen is if our schools run into a problem trying to replace revenue that's been taken away from them by the state, it's going to show up on your ballot as a school levy. And, you know, like me and everybody else in the city, I'm sick and tired of all the time the schools are raising our taxes and trying to raise our taxes. Well, if the state is taking away the funding and not replacing it, that's where it's going to come. It's going to come back to you in the form of higher school taxes or request for higher school taxes. So be aware of commercial activity taxes. Nobody understands what it is. I've been to meetings, I've

talked to accountants, I've talked to our finance gentleman, Mr. Fisk, I've talked to Marti Ferian. There's no information about this commercial activity tax and what the impact is going to be at the local level. But I'm telling you, it looks like a duck, it walks like a duck, it quacks like a duck, and we're about to get hammered. So that's my speech on commercial activity tax. And I think that's all I have tonight. Thank you."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Frey. Next is Councilman Patton."

Councilman Craig Patton: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. Hopefully we have two more of these here, Ron, but I'd also like to congratulate you on your award tonight. Ron Balbier is not only a great resident, but he's also a great lawyer, a great magistrate, who volunteers a lot of time, but more importantly, Ron Balbier is a very great man. So congratulations to you, and it's nice to have you Ron. Next I'd like to congratulate and give a big thumbs up to the Service Department. Since the weather's been warmer, I've been out walking around with my family a few times, and the Service Department's been doing a great job of making sure that our streets are cleaned and the grass is mowed and taken care of, and all the city parks and everything. And also to Dane Hammond and the Rec Department for taking care of the grass in the city's parks now. Everything looks great. I've had a lot of people while walking come up to me and tell me the city's looking great. And those are good things to hear, that the people feel that they are getting their money for their taxes. So hopefully we can keep up that great job. Saturday night I was in attendance at 7:00 at the ice rink. If you notice over the last couple Council meetings we've had some young ice skaters come here and try to invite you. I think it worked, because there was a record sell-out crowd I believe. I thought the state hockey championships were here. There was capacity on the bottom and on the top of the bleachers for the Summer Swizzle. So many Brooklyn residents and figure skating kids that are in classes there put on a great show, it was entertaining. Went probably close to 2½ hours with their performances, both individual and as groups. It was a lot of hard work and dedication. So to the instructors and the staff over at the ice rink, fantastic job. I also was in attendance last week for Mr. Jeff Lampert's State of the School's meeting. I was very, very interested in the way it was presented. Mr. Todd Hopkins did a great job with the PowerPoint presentation over there. And Marti Ferian also did a great job, as far as detailing where the monies are going, where they're coming from, and where we're going in the future. But I was more surprised, I shouldn't say surprised, I was more intrigued by Mr. Jeff Lampert, our superintendent's attitude towards the whole thing. Mr. Lampert's only been here for several years, and his strategies he takes, and also his enthusiasm towards what he does for the City of Brooklyn is second to none. This man prides himself on his work and doing the best things he can for the City of Brooklyn. I think he's representing everyone in the city well, working well with our school board, and moving forward. I think he's doing an exceptional job, and I'd like to give another thumbs up to him. And also, I have a letter here that was given to me, from my mother-in-law, who's in charge of the Support Our Troops Rally. It says, 'I will be facilitating a summer long collection of travel size items for all of our troops.' If you notice by the board that we have in front we have several, actually probably over 20 or so, Brooklyn residents that are over in the Middle East right now fighting the war. So, 'Collection bins will be located at the Brooklyn Senior Center, Brooklyn City Hall, and Brooklyn Recreation Center. A list of specific items will be available at the drop-off points. Our troops need our support, and by your generous donations we can let them know that we appreciate everything that they are doing. For more information please contact Karen DiRienzo at 216-749-7957.' And last but not least, I would also like to thank Brian Ward for coming. We've had several chats over the last few months. Brian really took this report and ran with it. He did a phenomenal job. Hopefully he doesn't take my seat just yet, he waits a few more years and gives me a chance. But Brian, you did a great job. I think everybody at the high school's proud of you. We're all proud of you. You did a fantastic job with the work that you put into it. Not only just on the paper, but walking the streets, talking with residents, getting out there, and showing that our students do care about what's going on, and how big of an impact that you guys can make. So thank you very much. Okay. Mr. Balbier, that was all I had. Thank you."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Patton. Next is Councilman John Frey."

Councilman John Frey: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. It's hard to beat, you Craig Patton and your praise for Brian. But Brian, I commend you for coming up here and making that speech and doing a good job, and you Ron, for what you do for the City of Brooklyn. But on top of that, I want to commend everybody and anybody that's done anything for the benefit of the City of Brooklyn. And that's everybody that has done anything to help the City of Brooklyn. Mayor, I commend you for doing a great job as administrator here, and your group, the administrative staff. The toughest job in politics is being Mayor of a small town. Believe me, because you're responsible for every single thing that happens. We've got a great bit of concern on this

animal shelter. As you can tell it's becoming a very big political football. That's the worst thing that could happen to this animal shelter, is have it become a political football; but that's exactly what's happening. In any event, it's tough running a city, and I thank you for what you do Mayor. And continue please. I attended the Brooklyn Hall of Fame meeting last Saturday night. While you were at the Rec Center I was there eating dinner at St. Mary's of the Woodside. Nice place for that dinner. And there were eight new inductees into the Brooklyn Hall of Fame. Four were for academics and four were for athletic scholarships. Not scholarships, but athletics that they had accomplished over the years. And one was for a 90 year old Brooklyn lad who received the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars for his service in WWII. And it was Mr. Russell Clough, whose mother, along with Mrs. John, Mrs., not John, but Mrs. Coyne, John Coyne's mother, started the Brooklyn PTA. And it was quite a meeting. And the former Mayor made a speech there honoring everybody and anybody that had done anything for anybody else. So it was a good Hall of Fame meeting. They have it once a year. And I attend that. And happy to see the people come celebrate the Brooklyn scholars. And that's all I have."

Councilwoman Brown: "Mr. Albier, may I be recognized?"

President Albier: "Yes Mrs. Brown."

Councilwoman Brown: "Okay, may I ask Bruce a question?"

President Albier: "Brian."

Councilman Patton: "Brian."

Councilwoman Brown: "Brian, I'm sorry."

President Albier: "Yes you may."

Councilwoman Brown: "Brian, did you go to residents' homes in Brooklyn for part of your survey?"

Mr. Ward: "Some of us did, yes, to pass out the surveys."

Councilwoman Brown: "Did you present your school ID when you went to the homes?"

Mr. Ward: "No. Actually, no, we did not."

Councilwoman Brown: "This had been a suggestion of mine, because we are working on a crime watch, and last meeting I had suggested that the students going to resident homes identify themselves with their school ID. But apparently nobody approached your committee with it. But I congratulate you on all the work you did. And Ron Albier, I forgot to say great man. You are a credit to Brooklyn. That's all Ron, thank you. Or Rich."

President Albier: "Thank you Mrs. Brown. Mr. Patton."

Councilman Patton: "Rita, I do remember you asking that, and that was passed along. But if it got lost in between myself and high school, I don't know where it was lost. But that was talked about, so... Okay?"

Councilwoman Brown: "Thank you."

President Albier: "As you may have noticed, I'm the only Councilman that didn't congratulate Ron, and that was on purpose, because I feel he has enough congratulations, any more would go to his head. So with that said, we'll move onto the Mayor's report."

Mayor Ken Patton: "Alright, congratulations to you Rich. Your brother's beating you out a little bit tonight. But the Albier family, the Frey family, the Gallagher family, the Brown family, the Pucci family, and now we have two Pattons up here too. But that's what Brooklyn is made up of, it's people who care, that aren't afraid to get into public life and do something good for their community, and you know, salute to everyone. On Wednesday, May 24th at 6:30 p.m. I've asked our Safety Director Mr. Don Hilberg and Sgt.

Bud Armstrong from our Police Department, to put on a clinic on how to protect your home and personal wellbeing. This meeting will take place in Council Chambers and will be scheduled to be aired on cable television. Next meeting I hope to have our Parma Community General Hospital representatives here to give us an update. Thank you to the third grade students from Brookridge, St. Thomas More, and also Heritage Christian Schools who helped us celebrate Arbor Day on April 28th. They all took home a little seedling tree to plant, green side up. Congratulations to the Brooklyn School Superintendent Jeff Lampert and the treasurer Marti Ferian on their comprehensive State of the School presentation. Next year we hope to present the State of the City and the State of the Schools at the same program. Brooklyn celebrated National Day of Prayer on May 4th. And also congratulations to the Recreation Department and the Brooklyn Figure Skating Club who collaborated on the presentation of Spring Swizzle 2006, and it was a packed house. A very enjoyable show. Congratulations to Fr. Youseff and the congregation of St. Elias Church on the celebration of your 105th anniversary. As Mayor it is my pleasure to proclaim the week of May 7-14 as being Be Kind to Animals Week in the City of Brooklyn. And a proclamation is forthcoming to the Brooklyn Animal Shelter. At the next meeting of Council I will be proposing a resolution in opposition to the tax expenditure limitation amendment to the Ohio Constitution slated for the November 8th statewide ballot. The TEL, as it's referred to, amendment, seeks to limit state and government annual spending growth to 3.5% or the sum of the rate of inflation plus population growth. This will definitely be a hindrance to any municipality. Condolences to the family of Bill Flynn who was very active in the Brooklyn Athletic Association, and all who lost loved ones. I request an executive session at the end of this meeting for the purposes of one, considering the sale of city property by competitive bid; and two, the potential purchase of property; and three, confidential matters concerning the two previous mentioned items. Don't forget Memorial Day, December... December, boy am I in the wrong month. Let's try May. May 29th. Starting at 9:30 at West Park Cemetery there will be a salute; at 11:00 the parade will begin from Brooklyn High School and march over to Brooklyn City Hall, where a memorial service will be held at 11:45. Following the service will be the hot dogs, chips and soda at the nominal fee, and that is going to be put on by the Brooklyn Fire Department Burn Unit and also the Police Department DARE Unit. We've had some action in natural gas recently. Dominion projects higher gas costs. Citing projected increase wholesale cost, Dominion East Ohio Gas has asked the state to approve a 13% increase in its cost recovery, or gcr rate, in May. The current gcr is \$9.72 per mcf. The utility wants to increase that by nearly \$1.22 to \$10.93 per mcf. That's why we are still recommending Volunteer Energy. And also another item that happened this week, PUCO is scheduled to vote on gas supply issue. About half the Dominion East Ohio Gas Company's 1.2 million customers buy their gas from independent market suppliers instead of the utility. Dominion wants all of them to buy from outside suppliers, leaving the company with the only responsibility of delivering the fuel. Gas marketers are in favor of the plan; critics say it exposes consumers to the full impact of the volatile natural gas markets, and will likely lead to higher gas costs. Despite opposition, the case has steadily moved through the dockets of the Public Utilities Commission over the last year, and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled a vote on this issue for 3 p.m. this Wednesday. To watch the action go to www.puco.ohio.gov and click on the web cast. To view the case file go to www.puco.ohio.gov, click on DIS and plug in case number 05-0474-GA. The Republican Club asked me to announce this. They have an old-fashioned movie night at the Brooklyn Senior Center, Monday, May 15th at 6 p.m., and the movie will be The Glenn Miller Story, the music of the world's greatest generation, starring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson. Music arranged by Henry Mancini. At 6 p.m. refreshments. The donation is \$5. You'll get pizza, popcorn, goodies and beverages, with the movie starting at 7 p.m. And it is a G-rated movie. Senior Center update. Senior Celebration lunch dance is May 25th. Lunch is served 11:30. The dance begins at 1:00. Music provided by Bob Spiwak. Cost is \$7. And lunch includes stuffed pork chop, whipped potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, lemon cake and beverage. And tickets are available at the Senior Center. Senior Center will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29th. The Brooklyn Community-Senior Center indoor garage sale will take place Saturday, May 13th from 9-2. To rent tables it's \$20, including two chairs. Building access starts at 7:30 a.m. to set up. For rental contracts and information please call Phyllis Marrow at 216-661-4535, or call the Senior Center. Blood pressure readings, as usual. Lutheran Hospital provides blood pressure readings every Tuesday from 1-2:30; and our Brooklyn fire fighters are there the second and fourth Thursday of the month, and that means May 11th and 25th. And they're there from 10-11. Medicare assistance is this Friday the 12th from 11-12:30. Please call the Senior Center and make your appointment with Ellen. Okay, Mr. Brian Ward is a great example of what's going on over at Brooklyn High School. Not only are they learning life lessons the hard way, from what has happened this year and through your class, but you're putting all of your knowledge to work and working for the betterment of your community. And we appreciate that. And please take it back to all your classmates. I disagree with any comment on the Animal Shelter dragging our feet. Shirley Palumbo e-mails us at least once a day, and we e-mail back. We try to get things done. We

have been working with an architect who is volunteering and not charging the city. And on every trip there's a few bumps in the road, and we're hitting them now, and we're determined to find a way to get the Brooklyn Animal Shelter working. So that's my comment. Thank you."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mayor. Next is the directors' reports. The Finance Director Mr. Fisk is out ill this evening, so we'll move on to the Service Department, Mr. Kappler."

Director Kappler: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. I just have a couple items to report on today. After our first week of grass cutting, we are actually on schedule. Last week we cut 668 lawns in 426 working hours. And our streets program, our street repair program is on schedule. Right now they are working on Memphis Villas, Summer Lane and Springwood. Memphis Villas is scheduled for asphalt overlay on Wednesday the 10th, weather permitting. And the extra street that we have this year for the program will be Archmere. And that completes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Kappler. Next is the Building Department, Mr. Ockington."

Comm. Ockington: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. The Building Department staff has been busy this spring with property maintenance and high grass inspections. The department has issued many written and verbal warnings and 102 violation notices in 2006. In most cases we have been receiving good cooperation from residents and businesses. If you're aware of a problem property please contact us at 216-635-4203. We are aware of most problem properties, but some may have been missed. I would also like to remind residents that the Cuyahoga County Treasurer's low interest loan program is available to all residential property owners with no maximum interest restrictions. You may contact the Treasurer's office at 216-443-2149 for additional information. And that concludes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Ockington. Next is the Police Department, Chief Murphy."

Chief Murphy: "I think Council covered pretty much all the police business, I don't have anything to add to that. No report."

President Balbier: "Okay, thank you Chief. The Fire Chief, Chief Duchoslav, is excused tonight to attend a class. Next is the Law Department, Mr. Shaper."

Director Shaper: "I will put the teen dance ordinance and the solicitors and peddlers ordinance on for first reading in your packet, that I did not hear from anybody, and I'm assuming you had a chance to look at that. I'm not looking to pass it next meeting; I'm looking to put it on first reading. Ron Balbier, as long as we're talking about you... The Justice Center has a lot of tough critics; I have never heard a bad word about you. I've tried to get people to talk bad about you, they won't do it. But you personify what an attorney should be, and you are honest, reliable, sincere, helpful, and you break things down in language that people can understand. And you have been invaluable to me and I appreciate it. I look forward to talking to Council in executive session, go from there."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Shaper. Next is the Recreation Department, Mr. Hammond."

Mr. Hammond: "I just have a couple of things. This week is Safe Kids Week; we're focusing on water safety. Maria McGinty and Mayor Patton have put together baskets full of beach and pool goodies for the kids that we'll be raffling off. We're giving away information on how to be safe in swimming pools and what not. It's going to be distributed in the schools. There is packages available at the Rec Center, and the kids can enter for a drawing to win one of those prizes. The Spring Swizzle, as everyone already said, was a great success. Tons of people there. Everyone did a phenomenal job. But the person I have to thank the most for the job that he did that night is Chris Hovan. And I can't go into details because it'll be on television, but he had to clean up some of the nastiest thing I ever saw in my life. And hats off to you Chris. The new brochures for the Rec program will be out next week in homes. And we're just waiting on the Post Office. They go on snail mail, so it might take a little bit of time. But by the end of next week it should all be out. And Craig, it's bad enough that I have to worry about these seven Councilpeople potentially picking on me, you've got to bring Brian in and shoot down the Rec Center too. So thanks to you."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Hammond. Last but not least is the Safety Director Mr. Hilberg."

Dir. Hilberg: "Thank you Mr. Balbier. I have a couple letters to read. One was addressed to the Mayor. 'Mayor Patton. I'm writing this letter to let you know about one of your patrolmen. Skip Hammond has helped me since my garage was broken into. He came over one day and put a motion light on my garage, no charge. He also stopped by after the break-in to see if I was alright. You have, or should I say, we have a great police force, and we need more patrolmen like Skip Hammond. Thank you. Maryann Vivolo, 4779 Tiedeman Road.' A copy of this will go in Skip's file. And the Fire Department is not going to be out done. A letter to Chief Paul Duchoslav. 'Dear Chief Duchoslav. On Wednesday, May 20, 2006 at approximately 6:30 I had to utilize the services of one of Brooklyn's fire trucks. This was the first time I have had to experience the need for this kind of service after living in Brooklyn for over 20 years. Hopefully I will never have the need for your department in a serious situation; however, it is very reassuring to know that our community has such a fantastic Fire Department. The reason I am writing this letter is to inform you of the outstanding service I received. I am a firm believer that everyone should be recognized when they do their job in an outstanding manner, such as your firemen displayed on the above evening. Hopefully a copy of this letter will be placed in each of the firemen's employment folder. Of course, this was not a serious matter, and because of that issue alone, it makes this letter even more important. First, the response time was lightening quick, and that in itself is to be acknowledged. Next, each and every fireman was very professional and courteous. Even though my situation was rather humorous, to say the least, I am certain the report will attest to that; however, make no mistake, I was still very much in need of the services. Obviously your men have been trained to address each and every situation in a very professional manner, which reflected in their performance. As an individual I truly respect a well-organized and professional department in a community. Certainly a resounding thank you is very much in order for your department and to you for your knowledgeable command.' I won't give her name, I didn't talk to this person, but it was a Woodhaven Avenue residence. And it was Lt. James Mochan, Matt Farrell, Mike Kolodny, and George Cehelnik were the men, and there is a copy in their files already. I got this from the Chief. The last week in April the 9-1-1 simulator was demonstrated to all second graders at St. Thomas More, Heritage Christian and Brooklyn Schools. The first week of May, the smoke house Get Out Alive Program was demonstrated to all third graders. Hydrant flushing will start Monday, May 15th. Main streets such as Ridge, Brookpark, Memphis and etc. will be done first, then the residential neighborhoods last. If your water appears rusty and discolored, do not use any hot water. Wait several hours, if possible, then run cold water until it clears. Signs will be posted on the streets that are scheduled to be done at least one day in advance. Thank you, that concludes my report."

President Balbier: "Thank you Mr. Hilberg. That completes the reports of the directors. Next we have a few monthly reports, and any of these monthly reports you can review during working hours at City Hall. The first is from Mrs. Kay Hutkay, director of the Senior Center. They took in \$3,803.40 for social programs. Charges and donations, they took in \$4,144.94. So for the month of April they took in a total of \$7,948.34. Next is the Division of Fire. They collected ambulance fees of \$2,702.36; and so far this year they have a total collected for squad runs of \$18,607.72. Run Saver program, they took in \$615; and up to date they took in \$5,385. Next is the Brooklyn Mayor's Court, total monies taken in for the month of April was \$45,957. Total monies paid out was \$8,405. Check issued to the City of Brooklyn for \$37,552. Next is from the Rec Center, turned in by Mr. Hammond. The Recreation Department took in a total of \$41,639.03."

Councilwoman Brown: "Mr. Balbier..."

President Balbier: "Yes Mrs. Brown."

Councilwoman Brown: "I noticed in the report from the Rec Department that the Day Camp has taken in \$1,375. Am I to assume it was successful last year, and it's going to be more successful this year?"

President Balbier: "Mr. Hammond."

Mr. Hammond: "We're still taking more people. I think the last count we're at like 37 people have signed up. But Maria McGinty tells me last year we only had like five or six people signed up till the last day. Super sign-ups are the weekend after this coming weekend, and that, people, like last year when we did it, you know, we only had five or six people sign up, and then the last day we got 40 or 50. So we're well on track."

Councilwoman Brown: "It looks like it's going to be a win."

Mr. Hammond: "Oh, absolutely."

Councilwoman Brown: "Okay, thank you."

President Albier: "That completes the monthly reports. At this point, anybody in the audience that has anything... Excuse me. We're going to have the bids first. This first bid is from the Mayor, asking, he says, 'I request authorization to seek bids to sell the old library located at 4480 Ridge Road.' Like Mrs. Pucci said, we talked about this at the Finance meeting, and the only thing we disagreed with, we'd like the minimum bid to start at 500,000 instead of 400,000. So I need a motion to correct this."

Councilman G. Frey: "Move to correct."

Councilman Patton: "Second."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Second."

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| Clerk Banish: "To correct the amount to be \$500,000 Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea." |
| "Rita Brown." | Councilwoman Brown: "Yea." |
| "Colleen Gallagher." | Councilwoman Gallagher: "No." |
| "Greg Frey." | Councilman G. Frey: "Yea." |
| "Craig Patton." | Councilman Patton: "Yea." |
| "John Frey." | Councilman J. Frey: "Yea." |

President Albier: "Motion to adopt."

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| Clerk Banish: "Motion to advertise for bids, Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | |

Councilwoman Pucci: "Do we need..."

Councilman G. Frey: "Do we need a motion and a second?"

Councilwoman Pucci: "...a motion and a second?"

Clerk Banish: "Yes."

Councilman G. Frey: "I'll move we advertise for bids."

Councilman Patton: "I'll second."

Councilwoman Pucci: "May I be recognized for a moment?"

President Albier: "Yes Mrs. Pucci."

Councilwoman Pucci: "I just want to reiterate that we are not obligated to accept any of the bids. I too would like to see us do something for the Animal Shelter, and I know that there are some discussions, and I'm hopeful that we can come up with a solution that satisfies everybody's needs. But I'm willing to go out for bid and see how the bids come back. But we're in no way obligated to accept them. Thank you."

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| Clerk Banish: "To advertise for bids, Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea." |
| "Rita Brown." | Councilwoman Brown: "No." |
| "Colleen Gallagher." | Councilwoman Gallagher: "No." |
| "Greg Frey." | Councilman G. Frey: "Yea." |
| "Craig Patton." | Councilman Patton: "Yea." |
| "John Frey." | Councilman J. Frey: "Yea." |

President Balbier: "The next is a request from Mr. Kappler. I'll read the whole thing here. It says, 'Dear Mayor and members of Council. I am requesting authorization to obtain RFPs, that's Request for Proposals, for oil and gas drilling at various parcels owned by the City of Brooklyn. The potential locations of this project are Memorial Park and the landfill. I have requested from the Gas and Oil Exploration and Management six businesses that the City of Brooklyn may contact for RFPs.' Mr. Kappler, do you want to expand on that?"

Director Kappler: "Several months ago a gentleman, John Newton, from Dome Energy Consultants, contacted Gale Fisk and myself about perspective gas drilling on two sites. The number one site would be Memorial Park. He has a map of gas wells that were active in Brooklyn approximately 100 years ago, and with the new technology he feels that they could possibly still, there's more natural gas in the parkway and also the landfill area. And it would be our worthwhile and his to possibly drill a well and try and get it out. With that in mind, I feel we at least have to bring companies in and find out what they're offering the City of Brooklyn, because it's potential revenue that could possibly help us."

President Balbier: "Thank you. At the Finance meeting we questioned Mr. Kappler, and Mr. Ockington stated we were all picturing some big oil well or something in the city park, and Mr. Ockington informed us the City of Lakewood has quite a few of them, and it's like a little eight-foot high building. Was that what you said Mr. Ockington?"

Comm. Ockington: "Basically like a rear yard storage shed, and some piping that's adjacent to it."

President Balbier: "Okay, so it's like a little storage shed he's telling us, not some big oil derrick."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Mr. Balbier, may I make one comment just to add to that? That we all are in agreement that safety's going to be the number one concern."

President Balbier: "That's correct. Okay, I need a motion."

Councilman Patton: "Move to approve."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To approving seeking Request for Proposals, Rich Balbier."

"Kathy Pucci."

"Rita Brown."

"Colleen Gallagher."

"Greg Frey."

"Craig Patton."

"John Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."

Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."

Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."

Councilman Patton: "Yea."

Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Balbier: "And the last bid is bid approval for street striping. This is turned in by Chief Murphy, he put it out for bids. Custom Line Striping put in a bid of \$38,500 for spring and fall application; Traffic Tech, Inc, put in a bid of \$42,600; JD Striping and Services put in a bid of \$62,123; and Oglesby Construction put in a bid of \$195,134. So obviously Chief Murphy is recommending we accept Custom Line Striping for the 2006 contract with their total bid of \$38,500."

Councilman Patton: "Move to approve."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To accept the bid, Rich Balbier."

"Kathy Pucci."

"Rita Brown."

"Colleen Gallagher."

"Greg Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."

Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."

Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."

"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Balbier: "Now we'll have audience remarks pertaining to legislation on the agenda. Anybody that wishes to make a comment on the legislation only, please come forward and state your name and address. If no one cares to come forward, we'll have the first Ordinance. This is the third reading for **ORDINANCE 2005-55**. An Ordinance enacting Chapter 1360 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Brooklyn, Ohio entitled Chapter 1360, Property Maintenance and Rental Licensing Code."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Move to adopt."

Councilman Patton: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To adopt, Rich Balbier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Balbier: "Next is **ORDINANCE 2006-33**. Amending Section 1 of Ordinance 2000-42, as amended by Ordinance 2004-47, adopted 6/28/04, entitled 'An Ordinance providing for the fees for instructions in the ice skating at the Brooklyn Multi-Purpose Recreation Center.' "

Councilman Patton: "Introduced by all..."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Introduced by all, suspend the rules."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To suspend the rules, Rich Balbier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

Clerk Banish: "To adopt, Rich Balbier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Balbier: "The next is **ORDINANCE 2006-34**. Authorizing and directing the Director of Finance to sell, through public auction, various obsolete surplus and non-functioning city vehicles, materials and/or equipment."

Councilman J. Frey: "Introduced by all, suspend the rules."

Councilman Patton: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "Suspend the rules, Rich Balbier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."

Councilman Balbier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."

"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

Clerk Banish: "To adopt, Rich Albier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Albier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Albier: "**ORDINANCE 2006-35**, to be put on first reading. An Ordinance authorizing inter-fund transfers and advances during 2006."

Councilwoman Gallagher: "Move to put on first reading."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Introduced by all... Oh, that's right, I'm sorry. Move to put on first reading."

Councilman G. Frey: "Second."

Councilwoman Brown: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To place on first reading, Rich Albier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Albier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Albier: "**ORDINANCE 2006-36**. An Ordinance to approve the 2006 replacement pages to the Brooklyn Codified Ordinances."

Councilwoman Pucci: "Introduced by all, suspend the rules."

Councilman J. Frey: "Introduced by all, suspend the rules."

Councilwoman Brown: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "Suspend the rules, Rich Albier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Albier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

Clerk Banish: "To adopt, Rich Albier."
"Kathy Pucci."
"Rita Brown."
"Colleen Gallagher."
"Greg Frey."
"Craig Patton."
"John Frey."

Councilman Albier: "Yea."
Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea."
Councilwoman Brown: "Yea."
Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea."
Councilman G. Frey: "Yea."
Councilman Patton: "Yea."
Councilman J. Frey: "Yea."

President Albier: "And like you said, I've been asked by the Law Director and the Mayor to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing property that the city's interested in. And selling it and buying."

Mayor Patton: "Consider the sale of property, city property, by competitive bid; and potential purchase of property; and three, the confidential matters concerning the first two previous items."

Councilwoman Pucci: "So moved."

President Albier: "Second."

Councilman G. Frey: "Second."

Clerk Banish: "To adjourn to executive session..."

Director Shaper: "Let them know we won't be doing anything when we come out."

Councilwoman Pucci: "And also with the Mayor and the Law Director. Anybody else? Okay."

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| Clerk Banish: "To adjourn to executive session, Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea." |
| "Rita Brown." | Councilwoman Brown: "Yea." |
| "Colleen Gallagher." | Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea." |
| "Greg Frey." | Councilman G. Frey: "Yea." |
| "Craig Patton." | Councilman Patton: "Yea." |
| "John Frey." | Councilman J. Frey: "Yea." |

COUNCIL WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AND THEN RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION.

Councilman G. Frey: "I move we reconvene."

President Albier: "Second."

Councilman J. Frey: "Second."

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| Clerk Banish: "To reconvene, Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea." |
| "Rita Brown." | Councilwoman Brown: "Yea." |
| "Colleen Gallagher." | Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea." |
| "Greg Frey." | Councilman G. Frey: "Yea." |
| "Craig Patton." | Councilman Patton: "Yea." |
| "John Frey." | Councilman J. Frey: "Yea." |

Councilwoman Pucci: "Move to adjourn."

Councilman G. Frey: "Second."

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| Clerk Banish: "To adjourn, Rich Albier." | Councilman Albier: "Yea." |
| "Kathy Pucci." | Councilwoman Pucci: "Yea." |
| "Rita Brown." | Councilwoman Brown: "Yea." |
| "Colleen Gallagher." | Councilwoman Gallagher: "Yea." |
| "Greg Frey." | Councilman G. Frey: "Yea." |
| "Craig Patton." | Councilman Patton: "Yea." |
| "John Frey." | Councilman J. Frey: "Yea." |

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Asst. Clerk of Council

MAYOR